

HOUSE BILL 716  
By Turner (Ham)

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 1, Part 9, relative to reading programs and literacy.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-907, is amended by redesignating the present section to be subsection (a) and by adding the following as a new subsection (b):

(b) The report shall also include a more general report on the number, status, and funding of reading programs in grades kindergarten (K) through three (3) in public schools in Tennessee. This portion of the report shall include:

- (1) The number of identifiable reading programs being conducted in Tennessee;
- (2) The local education agencies which are conducting such programs and the number of programs in each LEA;
- (3) The number of students served in each program;
- (4) The number of hours such programs are conducted, either by the week or school term;
- (5) The source of funding for such programs, whether federal, state, local, or private;

(6) The amount spent on reading programs by each LEA, from all sources;

(7) The testing procedures used to evaluate students before, during, and after such programs;

(8) The number of teachers certified as reading specialists in each LEA; and

(9) Such other information as the joint oversight committee, the education committees of either house, or the committee on children and family affairs of the house of representatives may request.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-1-908, is amended by adding the following new sentence:

The office shall also assist with the formulation and presentation of the report required by Section 49-1-907(b).

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001, the public welfare requiring it.